



Policy Attachment: HIV/AIDS 20.22

Subject	Additional Information about HIV/AIDS
---------	---------------------------------------

Transmission and Risk Factors

1. HIV is transmitted from an infected person to an uninfected person by:
 - a) Having "unprotected" sex (not using latex condoms).
 - b) Getting infected blood, semen or vaginal fluids into the body or into open wounds.
 - c) Sharing needles and syringes when injecting or skin-popping drugs.
 - d) Sharing tattoo or piercing instruments, razors, toothbrushes, or anything else that may have someone's blood on it.
 - e) Giving birth - an infected woman can spread HIV to her baby before it is born or during birth; in some cases the virus can be passed on by breast-feeding.
2. HIV is not transmitted by:
 - a) You cannot "catch" HIV like a common cold or flu. HIV is not a communicable disease that can be spread through the air like cold viruses.
 - b) There is no medical evidence of HIV transmission by casual, everyday contact such as sharing kitchens, bathrooms, laundries, eating utensils, beds, or living spaces with infected people
 - c) There is no evidence of transmission through insects such as mosquitoes.
 - d) The risk of HIV infection through contact with feces, nasal secretions, saliva, sweat, tears, urine and vomit is extremely low or nonexistent.
3. A child/youth or may be at increased risk of HIV infection if any of the following apply:
 - a) Shared needles or syringes to inject drugs or steroids.
 - b) Are a male and sex with another male.
 - c) Have had unprotected sex with someone who you know or suspect was infected with HIV.
 - d) Have had a sexually transmitted disease.
 - e) Have had unprotected sex with someone and you didn't know their risk behavior.
 - f) Have had many sex partners.

- g) Have had a blood transfusion or clotting factor between 1978 and 1985.
- h) Have had unprotected sex with someone who would answer yes to any of the previous risk factors.